

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 286

Expressing the Sense of the Senate that Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa
should be commended for their accomplishments.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 5 (legislative day, OCTOBER 2), 1998

Mr. MACK submitted the following resolution; which was considered and
agreed to

RESOLUTION

Expressing the Sense of the Senate that Mark McGwire
and Sammy Sosa should be commended for their accom-
plishments.

Whereas the recent conclusion of the regular baseball season
marked the end of an unprecedented home run race be-
tween the St. Louis Cardinals' Mark McGwire and the
Chicago Cubs' Sammy Sosa;

Whereas both broke Roger Maris' home run record that many
though would stand untouched as indeed it has since
Maris passed the "Babe" by one home run when it hit
his 61st some 37 years ago;

Whereas "Mighty Mac" rounded out his record setting season
by sending two more over the fence in the team's final
game to finish the year with 70 home runs while
"Slammin' Sammy" finished close behind with 66;

Whereas McGwire and Sosa brought to the game much more than a new record for the books, even though they are both great competitors, they showed the nation how competitors can show mutual respect and appreciation toward each other and to the game;

Whereas Mark McGwire is surely an ideal role model for tomorrow's baseball stars as evidenced by his quiet dignity, love of the game and respect for his competitors which was clearly demonstrated the night he broke the home run record—from his triumphant jog around the bases, to hugging his son at home plate, to saluting Sammy Sosa, and then finally spending a few moments in the stands with the family of Roger Maris;

Whereas Sammy Sosa who stayed on McGwire's heels throughout the home run chase is also a role model who, as a native from the Dominican Republic, rose from near poverty to be one of the greatest home run hitters in the history of the game, and is a hero in his home country where he continues to share his success by funding special programs for its underprivileged children;

Whereas the nation witnessed this year a flashback to an earlier time when the fans felt a connection to the players and the players gave their all for the fans;

Whereas baseball is a game of magic moments, like a perfect game or a triple play—or watching the ball fly over the fence for a home run, and, this year, McGwire and Sosa brought the nation plenty of those magic moments; and

Whereas through class and character Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa are modern day heroes who brought out the best in baseball and reminded us all why baseball is the great American pastime: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa are
2 to be commended for their record achievement, for reinvig-
3 orating the game of baseball, for their decency, and for
4 giving our children sports heroes worthy of that status.

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